

U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney Northern District of New York

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NEWS RELEASE

United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian, together with Lev Kubiak, Special Agent in Charge, Buffalo, New York Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), announced that CHRISTOPHER BUTLER, age 44, pled guilty in federal district court today to transporting child pornography in interstate and foreign commerce, and to knowingly possessing child pornography.

BUTLER, a former Ft. Drum lieutenant cornel, admitted that in October, 2008, while he was deployed in Iraq he used the screen name "daddiesformommies," and sent images of child pornography via the Internet to an undercover special agent of the Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement. He further admitted that he possessed over 700 images depicting child pornography, including those that were sent to the undercover agent in 2008, on computers seized from his Ft. Drum residence.

BUTLER was remanded into custody pending sentencing, which is scheduled for December 10, 2010 in Utica, New York before United States District Court Judge Hon. David N. Hurd.

BUTLER faces a maximum penalty of 20 years, and a mandatory minimum sentence of 5 years imprisonment. In addition, he faces a fine of up to \$250,000, and a required term of supervised release of at least 5 years, and up to life. BUTLER will also be required to register as a sex offender.

BUTLER'S arrest is the result of an investigation by the United States Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command, and the New York State Police, as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.

BUTLER is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Lisa Fletcher, who can be reached at 448-0672.